

## DISPENSATION...COMMITTED UNTO ME.

1 Cor 9:15-18

**1 Corinthians 9:12** *But suffer all things:* endure, go through hardship

**1 Corinthians 9:13** Priests and Levites lived off sacrifices and offerings Num.18, Lev 6-7, Lev. 27

*wait at the altar:* Tend altar; work at altar

*partakers with the altar:* Get a share – supported by

**1 Corinthians 9:14** Priests of OT: *live out of temple...*preachers today

*The Lord ordained:* *Jesus taught this.* Luke 10:7 Matthew 10:9-13

Salutation to household.

If household or city shows support –issue blessing Matthew 10:14-15

If not --depart and shake off dust

Rabbinical rule. If don't receive you, treat as heathen and wicked people.

Acts 13:51

### II. vv 15-18 Why chose not to receive financial support

**1 Corinthians 9:15** *neither have I written these things...*not subterfuge (hidden motives or objectives)

Why not receive support:

1. Understand my true motive. Rather not live than for people get idea that my motive is money.

Approaches:

1. Give to Jesus
2. Give to ministry
3. Give to yourself
4. Give to needy
5. Give to me
6. I thought of you.

Balaam – preacher for hire (Num 22)

For filthy lucre – 1 Peter 5:2

Acts 5 – Simon, the magician,

Biblical motives

Obedience

Love

Faith

*Glorying:* boasting, rejoicing, reveling

*Void:* empty, shallow, without meaning and purpose.

2. Understand my responsibility.

**1 Corinthians 9:16** 1 Cor 1:31; Rom 15:17; Gal 6:14

*necessity is laid upon me;* feel compelled to preach gospel.

*woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!*

I would be utterly miserable if I couldn't preach the gospel.

My motivation has nothing to do with money.

*Barnes: I should be miserable and wretched if I did not preach. My preaching, therefore, in itself considered, cannot be a subject of glorying. I am shut up to it. I am urged to it in every way. I should be wretched were I not to do it, and were I to seek any other calling. My conscience would reproach me. My judgment would condemn me. My heart would pain me. I should have no comfort in any other calling; and God would frown upon me.*

**Preach:** announce good news; declare; bring glad or good tidings.

Romans 10:14-17

When does call a person to full time ministry?

Gal 1:15: from womb

Acts 9: road to Damascus

Jeremiah 1:5

John the Baptist: Luke 1:15-17

Jeremiah tried to quit preaching. Jeremiah 20:9

### **3. Understand my future reward.**

**1 Corinthians 9:17-18** Look at ministry from two view points:

1. Serve God willingly--reward
2. Serve God out of duty--be good steward.

**1 Corinthians 9:17** *For if I do this thing willingly, I have a reward:*

Lk 12; Luke 10:7; 1 Peter 5:4

*but if against my will...* under compulsion and obligation

*a dispensation of the gospel ....* Office, economy

I still have commitment to God,

*I am still entrusted with a sacred trusteeship and commission.*

*Lenski: The entire matter rested on the decision of the master to whom the slave in question belonged. The master did not ask, "Will you take this stewardship?" He only gave the order, "Take it!" The slave took it – woe to him if he was obstinate and refused! But when a slave, who had nothing to say in the matter, was put in charge of such a trust he had no claim to wages for administering this trust. Being only a slave and belonging bodily to his master, that master could and did use him as he saw fit. And that was the end of the matter. And such a slave was bound to be faithful (4:1-2).*

I can either volunteer and get a reward or reluctantly because I want to be a good steward.

**1 Corinthians 9:18** Choosing to preach gospel voluntarily to prove that I am not taking your money.

*...that I abuse not my power in the gospel.* Not take advantage of my rights and privileges

Wiersbe: *With great happiness and satisfaction Paul forsook a liberty, he refused to take advantage of a right, in order to make a contribution of his very own to the work of Christ.*

### **SO WHAT?**

Our responsibility to give financial support to

- Missionaries
- Pastoral staff

If they want to turn it down...their choice